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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CONVICTED FELON SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR
POSSESSION OF SEMI-AUTOMATIC HANDGUN**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that RONNIE BALL, 23, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge David F. Hamilton following his guilty plea to the unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Indianapolis Police Department as part of the PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS initiative.

BALL, who was convicted of Robbery in 1995, was in an E. 40th St. upstairs bedroom in March 2002, when Indianapolis police officers entered the home with a search warrant directing them to look for narcotics. A loaded, 9mm, semi-automatic handgun was found among BALL's clothes and personal effects.

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According to Assistant United States Attorney Timothy M. Morrison, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Hamilton also imposed a term of supervised release following BALL's imprisonment.

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